

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5182

E.O. GDS

TAGS: GE, PFOR, PINS

SUBJECT: FORCIBLE REMOVAL OF INDIVIDUAL FROM FOYER OUTSIDE CHANCERY

REF: A) BERLIN 5104, B) BERLIN 5036

1 REFTELS REPORT THE INCIDENT OF A NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING INDIVIDUAL WHO APPEARED AT THE EMBASSY ON TWO OCCASIONS, AND WAS, DURING HIS SECOND VISIT ON JANUARY 1, 1976 FORCIBLY REMOVED FROM THE FIFTH FLOOR FOYER OUTSIDE THE CHANCERY BY GDR AUTHORITIES (REF A).

2. ON FEBRUARY 2, 1976 AN OFFICER OF THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN CONTACTED A US EMBASSY OFFICER CONCERNING THIS CASE. THE DUTCH OFFICIAL WAS THE SAME PERSON WHO HAD CALLED THE EMBOFF ON DECEMBER 30, 1975 TO FIRST APPRISE US OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S INTEREST IN SPEAKING TO US OFFICIALS.

3. THE DUTCH OFFICIAL STATED THAT ON JANUARY 20, 1976 THIS SAME INDIVIDUAL RETURNED TO THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY, SUGGESTING THAT HE HAD VALUABLE INFORMATION OF AN INTELLIGENCE NATURE ABOUT THE GDR. THE DUTCH OFFICER ASKED HIM WHETHER HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. THE INDIVIDUAL STATED THAT HE HAD CONTACTED THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, BUT HAD NOT BEEN SATISFIED WITH THE RECEPTION HE RECEIVED.

4. THE INDIVIDUAL DID NOT MENTION HIS SECOND VISIT TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY ON JANUARY 1, 1976 AND ALSO OMITTED

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THAT HE HAD BEEN PICKED UP AND/OR ARRESTED BY EAST-

GERMAN AUTHORITIES. HAVING NO KNOWLEDGE OF THIS INCIDENT, THE DUTCH OFFICIAL DID NOT QUESTION HIM ABOUT THESE MATTERS. (THE DUTCH OFFICIALS NOTED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WAS POORLY GROOMED, NEEDED A BATH, AND GAVE OFF AN AROMA OF ALCOHOL.)

5. THE DUTCH OFFICIAL SUGGESTED TO THE INDIVIDUAL THAT HE COULD RETURN TO THE US EMBASSY TO EXPLAIN WHATEVER IT WAS HE WISHED TO SAY. THE INDIVIDUAL SAID HE WOULD DO THAT, AND THEREUPON LEFT THE NETHERLANDS EMBASSY. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY FURTHER ATTEMPT ON HIS PART TO VISIT OUR EMBASSY.

6 COMMENT: THE FACT THAT THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS FREE ON THE STREET ON JANUARY 20, 1976 IS CONSISTENT WITH (ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT NECESSARILY CORROBORATE) THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S STATEMENT THAT HE WAS APPREHENDED BY GDR AUTHORITIES ON JANUARY 1 "IN THE INTEREST OF THE SAFETY OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY" (REF B). GROVE

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